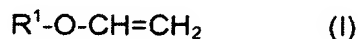


Distillative separation of a mixture containing vinyl ether and alcohol

Abstract

- 5    Process for distillatively separating a mixture containing a vinyl ether of the general formula (I)



- 10   and alcohol of the general formula (II)



- 15   in which  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  are each independently a saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms, and in which the alcohol (II) has a boiling point which is at least 1°C higher, measured at or extrapolated to 0.1 MPa abs, than the vinyl ether (I), by

- 20   a)   passing the mixture into a first distillation column and withdrawing, as a top product, an azeotrope containing vinyl ether (I) and alcohol (II) and, as a bottom product, a stream enriched with the alcohol (II);
- 25   b)   passing the azeotrope containing vinyl ether (I) and alcohol (II) from the first distillation column into a second distillation column which is operated at a pressure which is from 0.01 to 3 MPa higher compared to the first distillation column, and withdrawing, as a bottom product or gaseous sidestream in the stripping section, the vinyl ether (I) and, as a top product, an azeotrope containing vinyl ether (I) and alcohol (II); and
- 30   c)   recycling the azeotrope containing vinyl ether (I) and alcohol (II) from the second distillation column into the first distillation column.